

About FEMA's National Continuity Programs

Serving as the Nation's center of excellence for continuity planning, guidance, and operations, FEMA National Continuity Programs (NCP) executes its vision to ensure essential functions of government continue at all levels. Our mission is to safeguard the implementation of Executive Branch continuity and assist the continuity planning efforts of federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial government and non-governmental stakeholders to sustain the continuous performance of essential functions and critical services under all conditions. To accomplish this, NCP provides guidance, technical assistance, planning, training, and workshop support to other Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and FEMA components, federal departments and agencies, state, local, territorial, and tribal (SLTT) governments, and other members of the whole community, to include private sector owners and operators of critical infrastructure.

The Importance of Continuity

Recent high-profile emergencies have shown how continuity, the protection of governments' ability to perform their most essential functions under all conditions, is truly a whole community endeavor. NCP is charged to develop programs to assist organizations at all levels to prepare to assure their own continuity and ability to deliver critical functions. NCP offers continuity training that provides stakeholders with education and insight to enable them to craft Continuity of Operations plans for their organizations; develop protocols to train, exercise, and update those plans; and provide a structure for enabling their continuity staff to develop advanced expertise in performance of continuity functions.

Website

Continuity news, tools, guidance, and other useful resources may be found on FEMA's website at: <https://www.fema.gov/national-continuity-programs>.

Continuity Updates

To receive free continuity update bulletins, register at: <https://www.fema.gov/email>.

Contact Information

For more information, please contact FEMA NCP. For FEMA Region-specific information, contact the appropriate Regional Continuity Manager from the list below.

FEMA Region	Location
FEMA HQ	National Capital Region
Region I	CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT
Region II	NJ, NY, PR, VI
Region III	DC, DE, MD, PA, VA, WV
Region IV	AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN
Region V	IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI
Region VI	AR, LA, NM, OK, TX
Region VII	IA, KS, MO, NE
Region VIII	CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY
Region IX	AZ, CA, HI, NV, Pacific Territories
Region X	AK, ID, OR, WA

Regional offices may be contacted via email at: FEMA-CGC@fema.dhs.gov.



Continuity Excellence Series

Master Continuity Practitioner Program Level I

November 2019



FEMA

About the Continuity Excellence Series

FEMA NCP established the Continuity Excellence Series (CES) - Level I, Professional Continuity Practitioner and Level II, Master Continuity Practitioner in 2008. The Series is designed for governmental and non-governmental continuity professionals throughout the whole community. The CES addresses the full spectrum of requirements to support a viable continuity capability. Courses are available for students at all levels, from individuals new to continuity to program managers with many years of experience. Training classes enable personnel to develop and enhance their continuity knowledge and expertise. Some courses are offered in a web-based independent study (IS) setting to allow students a convenient opportunity to expand their knowledge of continuity.

The CES has been coordinated with the FEMA Emergency Management Institute (EMI) and meets the EMI Excellence Series requirements.

After completing the Level I Professional Continuity Practitioner Program, NCP encourages continuity professionals to achieve the next level of continuity proficiency by completing the Level II Master Continuity Practitioner Program. Details regarding this program can be found in the *Continuity Excellence Series Master Continuity Practitioner Program Level II* brochure.

Benefits of CES Qualifications

The CES Program brings valuable benefits to continuity professionals, their sponsoring organizations, and the nation as a whole. The CES combines emergency management, continuity, leadership, and instructional delivery courses. The training better enables students to understand the range of activities that comprise continuity planning and operations, and how each principle better ensures organizations can continue to perform essential functions when normal operations are disrupted.

The CES offers individuals committed to continuity planning a path to advance and hone their skills at all stages of their careers. The training and tools that the CES provides form the nucleus of a professional continuity cadre serving to build a culture of preparedness and ready the nation for catastrophic disasters.

Training Locations

Many CES courses are available online, as designated with an IS in the course number. For more information, please visit the EMI Independent Study website at: <http://training.fema.gov/is>.

In-person trainings may be organized locally, in coordination with the FEMA Regional Continuity Managers, or at EMI. For more information about in-person courses, please email: FEMA-Continuity-Practitioner@fema.dhs.gov.

Professional Continuity Practitioner - Level I

The Level I program provides a structure to enable those new to the field to develop the knowledge to become a Professional Continuity Practitioner. Courses offer a broad introduction to the range of areas involved in effective continuity planning. Students may select from a range of choices according to their organizations' specific needs.

Course Requirements

Complete ALL of the following:

- IS 546.a: Continuity of Operations Awareness Course
- IS 547.a: Introduction to Continuity of Operations
- IS 242.b or equivalent E/L/G course: Effective Communication
- IS 545: Reconstitution Planning Workshop
- IS 247A or 248: Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) for the American Public
- IS 230.d: Fundamentals of Emergency Management or equivalent E/L/G course: Principles of Emergency Management
- IS 700.b: Introduction to the National Incident

Course Requirements, Continued

Complete ONE of the following:

- IS 100.b: Introduction to Incident Command System (ICS)
- IS 200.b: ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents

Complete ONE of the following:

- E/L/G 548: Continuity of Operations Program Managers Course
- G 549: Continuity of Operations Program Managers Course

Complete ONE of the following:

- E/L/G 550: Continuity of Operations Planners Workshop
- L 552: Continuity of Operations for Tribal Government Course

Complete ONE of the following:

- IS 120.c: Introduction to Exercises
- E 136: Exercise Development Course (limited to EMI Resident Master Exercise Practitioner Program candidates)
- E/L 547: Continuity Exercise Design Course

Complete ONE of the following:

- E/L 554: Pandemic Influenza Determined Accord Workshop
 - IS 520: Introduction to Continuity of Operations Planning for Pandemic Influenza Course AND IS 522: Exercising Continuity Plans for Pandemic Course (both IS courses are required)
 - E/L 553 or IS 523: Resilient Accord Cyber Security Planning Workshop
 - E/L 556 or IS 525: Guardian Accord Terrorism Awareness Workshop
 - E/L 557: Mission Essential Function Workshop
- NOTE: Previous EMI course versions are acceptable with proof of completion.

Please contact FEMA-Continuity-Practitioner@fema.dhs.gov for more information on completing these requirements.